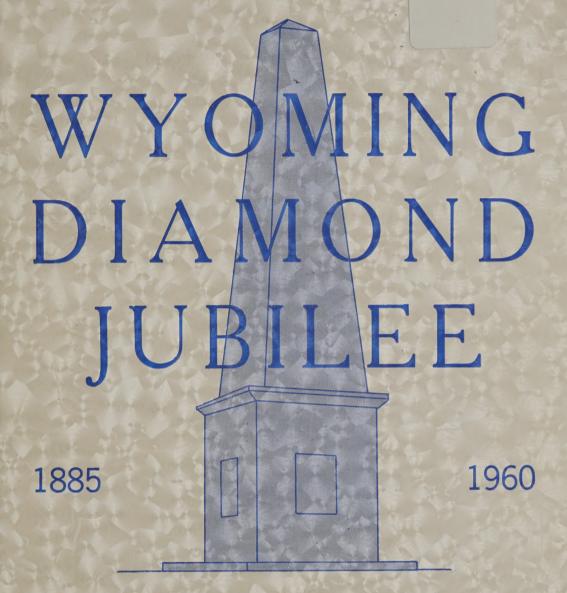




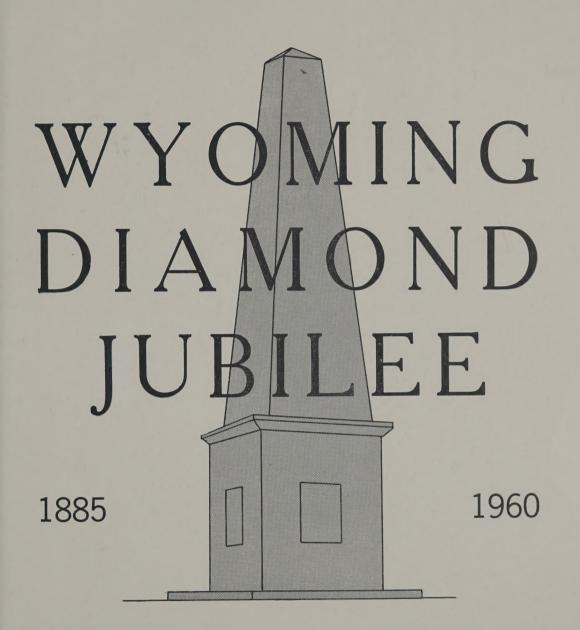
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75th ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF THE BOROUGH OF WYOMING, PA.









# **DEDICATION**

We dedicate this book to the people of Wyoming, the founders and builders of our Borough, and those generations to some, who will add their efforts to ours to make Wyoming a wonderful place to call "home."

# IN APPRECIATION...

I wish to express my gratitude to the people who have helped me compile the material for this publication, most certainly to Richmond Williams for his editing of the historical contents and writing the history of our Wyoming.

To Mr. Leo D. Rygiel, a word of appreciation for the personal interest he took in the Jubilee, probably because his son was chosen to be General Chairman.

Last, but hardly least, a heartfelt "Thank you" to the many committees that have worked long and diligently to make the Wyoming Diamond Jubilee the success that it is.

JOHN J. RYGIEL

General Chairman Editor

# FOREWORD

The present work is a community effort. Each institutional history was written by a member and then was shortened or lengthened by the editor. The latter is not only indebted to these contributors but also to the historian of Wyoming Borough, Charles Herbert Hall. Anyone working on the history of this borough can thank him for the meticulous research done for the fiftieth anniversary publication.

Hall's work makes the present task easier. The editor has eliminated duplication of compilations to be found in the **History of Wyoming Borough.** Concentration will be on the history of the last twenty-five years and areas untouched by Hall's book.

Limited time to write and compile this new history, the participation of many hands, and the departure of the editor right after the first draft are disadvantages which we have tried to overcome. With such edds the battle for truth against error may not have been entirely successful. We have attempted, however, to create a book worthy of the fine community whose Diamond Jubilee we celebrate this year.

Wyoming, May 1

RICHMOND D. WILLIAMS,

Assistant Editor

# Wyoming Diamond Jubilee

MAY 28th thru JUNE 5, 1960

\* \* \* \* \*

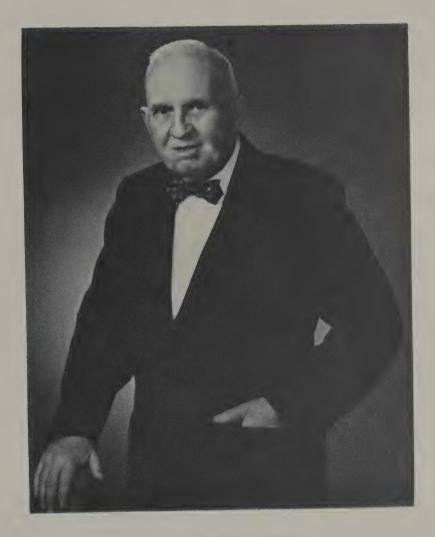
#### PROGRAM OF THE WEEK

- May 28—Homecoming, Auditorium, 7:00 P.M.
- May 29—Church Affairs, Various Churches, All Day.
- May 30—Memorial Day Parade, Wyoming Avenue, 9:00 A.M.
- May 31—Ball games, Old Timers' Parade, Wyoming Avenue, 6:00 P.M.
- June 1—Military Parade, Wyoming Avenue, 6:00 P.M.

  Block Party, High School, 8:00 P.M.
- June 2—Firemen's Parade, Wyoming Avenue, 6:00 P.M.

  Krazy Kort, Town Hall, 8:00 P.M.
- June 3-Variety Show, High School Auditorium, 7:30 P.M.
- June 4—Grand Parade, Wyoming Avenue, 1:30 P.M.

  Jubilee Ball, High School Gymnasium, 9:00 P.M.
- June 5-Re-dedication of Town at Monument, 2:30 P.M.



MR. EDWIN EAGEN
Honorary Chairman

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\* \* \* \* \* \*

#### WINNING ESSAY — SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

#### ROOTS

He felt alone — alone and forlorn. His little cosmos, containing all he had striven for in the past twenty years had somehow without warning crashed, leaving him buried beneath former hopes and plans. One could not blame him for lack of foresight, for he had planned well, had calculated the risks, and had gone forward to success — and now! Fate was cruel! Now he lay down to think it out — to search the whys and the wherefores of the whole problem. His frantic mind, however, was unable to produce a solution. It left immediate problems and scanned the past, groping for something to give comfort.

His thoughts came to settle on a little town wreathed by mountains, just green with spring. "Funny," he muttered, "I haven't thought of Wyoming in years." Then almost cynically, befitting his dark mood, he added, "The old home town — bah!" But his mind was unwilling to leave the town just yet, and slowly, somewhat painfully, he thought of the people and places once so dear to him, "far from the madding crowd" of which he was now a part.

He had been a sensitive, responsible child, and the town had answered his needs well. He had grown to love Nature in its wealth of beauty. The banks of the Susquehanna River and the surrounding "woods" — a grove of trees and high grass, the "crick", as Abraham's Creek was almost invariably called, and the mountains had provided his young energies with a welcome outlet.

Even so gradually now the dark cloud was passing from his troubled being. Almost eagerly he recalled other scenes from his youth. "I wonder if the burg is much changed", he pondered. "Perhaps I'll take a drive through sometime. Was it Route 11? Yes, yes, that was it — ran right through the center of town."

He remebered the Memorial Day parades along this route. They were typical small-town affairs in which half the town turned out to view the other half marching gaily along, smiles masking their tired feet and heat-oppressed bodies. But the fire engine! Wasn't it every boy's delight to ride in this huge red wonder on Memorial Day - lordly overseer of all those around? It had been quite a while now, he reflected, since he had delighted in anything. He had become of late years just too busy to notice the little things that give one delight. His thoughts flashed back, this time to the town library, bulging at the seams and sorely in need of paint. The town had been fortunate, nevertheless, to have a library so well-stocked; a few of the larger surrounding towns had none. He had spent many hours there, enlarging his mind and heart, and growing more and more idealistic. Oh, yes, he had been idealistic once - ready to conquer and change the world. Then his life in this little town had been sheltered, and he had known but little of the world. He had left town soon after his high school graduation and had come to know this world only too well. At first he had fought to save his noble ideals. Gradually, however, he had slackened in his efforts, not fully realizing that this fight is often life-long; thus the world had conquered him. He saw this clearly for the first time and received inspiration to begin again.

His mind again wandered from the present to the past. He saw himself as a teen-age boy — moody, searching, like so many others his age. The enormous old tree in front of the Wyoming Monument, erected over the bones of settlers slain in a long-ago Indian Massacre had often during those years provided a refuge where he had pondered his problems. This Monument and other historical markers in town were evidence of its wealth of historical lore. Few of the townspeople were sufficiently acquainted with this history; yet they shared a strange pride in these monuments.

Wyoming's real pride, however, was its schools. He remembered the many years of drudgery and joy spent there — mostly joy once he had realized school's real purpose. The high school, he recalled, had lacked much, but it had also provided much for anyone willing to take advantage of it. As the strength of any school lies in the worth of its teachers, so it had been with Wyoming. Some had been inept, that's true, but the majority had been truly wonderful, struggling to supply the students' needs under the present educational system. He had thought even then that consolidation with a neighboring school would have provided many more advantages, but when he had left the town, that had remained to be accomplished. The admiration he had felt for his teachers then swelled over him even now, making him feel so very warm and human.

He felt his eyelids becoming heavy, but he was strangely refreshed. The scenes of his youth, so long buried in his memory, had given him new values and courage. Man's roots run deep and are difficult to eradicate. They can become choked by weeds and brambles, but their grasp remains ever strong.

Sleep descended where peace had already come to reign. Thoughts of Wyoming had brought serenity.

Patricia Tomaskovic 211 East Eighth Street Wyoming, Pa.

\* \* \* \* \* \*

#### WINNING ESSAY — JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

715 Susquehanna Avenue Wyoming, Pennsylvania April 22, 1960

New Electronic Company 46 East Third Street New York 46, New York

Dear Sirs:

I read your article in the New York Times, April 15, 1960, stating that you were looking for a place to build a new industrial plant. Wyoming is anxious to have a clean plant, such as yours, and has industrial sites available. Wyoming can offer you many advantages.

Wyoming is an old historic town with a population of about 4500. We are going to celebrate our Diamond Jubilee soon. Our Tourist attractions include the Wyoming Monument, Queen Esther's Rock, and the Swetland Home. These landmarks date back to the Revolutionary War period.

Your employees will find Wyoming an ideal place to live and raise a family. We have a good school system that is not over-crowded. The high school offers the students opportunities to take part in sports, dramatics and band work.

The summer recreational program at the high school provides activities for boys and girls of all ages. One can play basketball, baseball, volleyball, tennis, badminton, and shuffleboard. These are supervised by qualified teachers. The young people will also enjoy the pool in the summer. The Little League provides good clean fun for the boys between eight and twelve. The Girl and Boy Scout troops are well organized under capable leadership and provide much fun for their members. Wyoming has never had a delinquency problem because these activities keep the young people busy.

Many new homes have been built in the town in the last few years. This new section is called Monument Park. All residents take pride in keeping their homes in good repair and their lawns attractive. A new shopping center is under construction that will provide a variety of stores close by. It is only about six miles to Wilkes-Barre if one cares to shop in a larger city.

We will be pleased to have your representatives come to Wyoming to see first-hand the many advantages Wyoming offers. Our officials will show you the industrial sites available.

Very truly yours,
Michelle Butler
Borough Secretary
715 Susquehanna Avenue
Wyoming, Pa.



SISTERS OF THE SWISH (1960) — First row: Ermine Castellani, Edith Dente, Genevieve Labaty, Adeline James, Co-Chairman. Second row: Martha Gavlick, Thelma Fowler, Doris Zanta, Louise Carpenter, Gladys Wilson. Third row: Anna Jayjock, Marie Cochran, Helen Lisiewski, Stella Elko, Co-Chairman; Elizabeth Christman. Fourth row: Frances Marfisi, Irene Tissue, Jean Wilson, Margaret Thomas, Rose Turchetti. Hortense Polleck, Mary Maruca, Helen Klimasiewfski, Alice Carpenter.



BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH (1960) — Kneeling: Norbert Zendian, Charles Szura, John Elko, Frank Gramacki, Bernard Gavlick, Bart Filipkowski, John Marfisi, Joseph Kolesar, Joseph Kostick. Second row: Joseph Castellani, Anthony Regula, Nicholas Marianacci, Philip Pizano, Michael Gentile, Fred Fowler, Andrew Krolick, Edward Waters, Stanley Konopka. Third row: John Gerchak, Joseph Sullivan, Michael McDermott, Michael Marco, Charles VanCamp, Leonard Mihalchik, Robert Warnagiris, John Rygiel, Jubilee General Chairman; Paul Warnagiris, and Anthony Truskowski.

# Wyoming

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#### EARLY HISTORY OF WYOMING

The early history of what is now Wyoming Borough is almost inseparably mixed with the histories of Kingston Township and West Wyoming. Most industrial development in the form of mills of all types took place on Abraham's creek behind West Wyoming.

Originally the land was part of Certified Kingston Township as laid out by the settlers who had drawn and purchased shares in the Susquehanna Company. These original settlers came from New England, most from Connecticut, and the architecture along Wyoming Avenue reflects this influence still. Since Pennsylvania land owners also claimed ownership several "Yankee-Pennamite" wars were fought; the Yankees successfully defended their claims first by force, then by legal means.

Wyoming has been celebrated in song, verse and story as the scene of the battle and massacre of July 3, 1778. At that time, a badly outnumbered band of American patriots marched to death and disaster at the hands of Tories, British and Indian forces. A surprise attack on the American left flank turned the battle into a rout and massacre.

In the retreat to Forty Fort many were killed and scalped and a number of prisoners taken. A number of them, variously estimated at from fourteen to twenty, were taken a short distance up the river bank, placed in a ring around "bloody rock," and executed by a "Squaw" with a war club or tomahawk. The merciless executioner, supposed to have been Queen Esther herself, passed around the circle singing a death song, and and each time she made the circuit sent one of the prisoners to eternity. Two of the prisoners, Lebeus Hammond and Joseph Elliott escaped from the larger circle to tell of this grim episode.

After the American Revolution had passed, Wyoming achieved some prosperity through the peaceful pursuits of farming and mills. By 1826 New Troy as the community called itself had a post office in Swetand's Store. Wyoming became the official name in 1839.

#### SOME FIRSTS IN WYOMING HISTORY TO 1900

- 1769 First Connecticut Settlers to claim land in Wyoming: Silas Bingham, Richard Brockway, Benjamin Carpenter, Thomas Dyer, Joseph Fink, Benjamin Follett, Stephen Gardner, Jr., Samuel Gaylord, Joshua Hall, Zeruable Jearum, Cyprian Lothrop, John Perkins, Benjamin Pollett, Benjamin Shoemaker, Luke Swetland, Lebbeus Tubbs, Rudolph VanOrman, and Job Yale
- 1777 Grist mill, Elnathan Corey
- 1778 Battle of Wyoming
- 1798 Fulling mill, Jacob Bedford
- 1800 Store, Christian G. Oehmig
- 1801 Public School at 8th Street and Wyoming Avenue
- 1804 Teacher, Mrs. Parmela Gordon
- 1806 Ferry, Christopher Miller and later John Sharp
- 1807 Name, Troy Corners
- 1813 Carding mill, Jacob Bedford
  - Taylor Tavern, 6th Street and Wyoming Avenue
- 1817 Doctor, John B. Smith
- 1820 Cabinet maker, John Gardner
- 1822 Distillery, Uriah Swetland
- 1826 Post Office, named New Troy Postmaster, William Swetland Tannery, Josiah B. Marshall and Daniel Gore
- 1831 Rope walk, G. and H. D. Fuller
- 1833 Tailor, John S. Madden
- 1837 Plough factory, Ezra Breese
- 1839 Name, Wyoming
- 1840 Powder mill
- 1846 Private school, Wyoming Institute (Luzerne Presbyterian Institute)
- 1852 First iron fence built by John Wild Fence Company
- 1854 Brass band
  - Private bank, established by William Swetland, Payne Pettebone, George W. Swetland.
- 1857 T. F. Atherton, James Jenkins, John Breese, R. C. Smith, and A. M. Jeffords, Wyoming Insurance Company, established by Steuben Jenkins.
  - Lackawanna and Bloomsburg Railroad
- 1869 Jenkins Institute of History and Science, Steuben Jenkins
- 1874 Shovel works, Payne Pettebone
- 1880 Meat market, Ira and John P. DeWitt Drill works, James Eagen
- 1885 Wyoming becomes a borough First policeman, Amos
- 1889 Shaft mining, Mt. Lookout Colliery Dairy, Alexander Murdoch
- 1892 Telephone service
  - Electric trolley service with Wilkes-Barre
- 1893 Mushrooms
- 1895 Electric street lights Fire hydrants, first 6

#### JOHN WILDE FENCE COMPANY, 1852-1939

(Editor's Note: This company was such an institution in Wyoming that a brief history seemed appropriate.)

In 1852, John Wilde, formerly of England, and an experienced blacksmith, built his first iron fence in Wyoming. For many years afterwards, the name Wilde was synonymous with iron fences and wrought iron work in Wyoming Valley.

Fences built by the John Wilde Fence Company still decorate many school, church and industrial properties throughout the Valley as well as private residences and graveyards like those in Wyoming and Forty Fort.

After his death in 1907, the John Wilde Fence Company was operated by his son-in-law, Ayten Garnett, Sr., until his death in 1922, and then by Mr. Wilde's two grandsons, Jack and Robert Garnett of Wyoming. The company was located between 5th and 6th Streets, close to Susquehanna Avenue, until the beginning of World War II.



The above photograph was taken at the John Wilde Fence Company in 1896. Seated, left to right, are: Mr. Robinson, Lidge Garnett, Robert Garnett, Jack Garnett, Mr. Reidy, Mr. Glatz, and Al Perkins. Standing: Tom Hornsby, Reverend Robert Reidy, Ayten Garnett, Sr., Joe Reidy, Bill Dawson, John Wilde, owner, George Givens, Phil Parsons.



#### BOROUGH OF WYOMING



Wyoming Town Hall, Erected 1902

According to Charles H. Hall the idea of separating from Kingston Township and incorporating Wyoming as a borough started in the early spring of 1885. By June of that year the court had passed favorably on the petition; by July 15 elections had been held; and by July 23, the council had been sworn in by Justice of the Peace H. C. Edwards. William Hancock was burgess while John P. Smith, J. I. Shoemaker, John A. Hutchins, C. P. Knapp, John Sharpe and John Dougher were the first councilmen for the community of about 1,000 citizens.

The main tasks which faced the new borough government were those of providing modern services for a growing community. Police protection, street lights, fire protection and sewers absorbed the attentions of the council. Rivalry developed between the first ward (east of the D. L. & W. tracks) and the second ward (west of the tracks); this eventually led to the creation of West Wyoming borough (June 23, 1898) reducing Wyoming from 8.2 to 2.8 square miles.

On December 19, 1900, after approval by the voters, the council passed an ordinance to issue \$5,000 worth of bonds to cover the costs of building a borough building. This was completed and ready for use by June, 1902. Besides the first sewer, the giving out of various public utility franchises, and street numbers, Hall's history mentions little that was remarkable between 1920 and 1935.

Since 1935 several matters have preoccupied the borough government. Mine subsidence in 1937 led to the appointment of a Wyoming Borough Mine Cave Commission consisting of Bruce Weir, William Sem-

mens, and Thomas Beaney, and to a certain amount of political agitation to get a useful anti-mine cave law enacted at Harrisburg.

The year 1942 was unique in the annals of modern Wyoming history. That was a taxless year. Controversy over the payment of a commission to the tax collector caused an impasse. No taxes were collected that year.

The next year saw the beginning of the dike system which has allowed the development of the southern part of the borough and has increased tax revenue. In 1943 the council approved the dike agreement with the Luzerne County Commissioners and the money for the borough's share. In 1947 Memorial Monument was dedicated to Wyoming's heroic dead from World War I and II.

Since World War II, the most unspectacular and yet most significant work toward Wyoming's future has been the building of sewers. Some have corrected seasonal flooding, others have opened up large areas for real estate development. \$83,925 has been spent since 1946 without jeopardizing the borough's reputation for low tax rates. Garbage collection (instituted in 1952), better police and fire protection, and a building ordinance have created a favorable environment to attract new citizens to Wyoming.

The councilmen since 1935 have been: Anthony Zavacki, Joseph Ostroski, Andrew Zavada, Karl Eckert, George Moore, David Morgan, George Hileman, Cornelius Ward, John Dooley, John Hartman, Thomas Doty, William Coslick, Willis Brown, Clair Murdock, John Lowson, Bernard Gavlick, Leo Chiavacci, Joe Michaels, George Metcalfe.

John Masel, Howell Evans, and Jack Dempsey have been burgesses.



WYOMING BOROUGH COUNCIL - About 1990

Seated, left to right: James Tonrey, William T. Hutchins, Charles Townend, Vinton L. Breese, Irving Wendling, Berth Stephens. Standing: William Sutliff, Fred M. Nulton, Malcolm Smith, Freeman Austin, Ferguson Townend, Frank Pollock, Fred Still, James Allen, Dr. A. B. Smith.

# Wyoming Borough Officials



JACK DEMPSEY
Burgess



LEO CHIAVACCI
Council



GEORGE METCALFE
Council



CLAIR MURDOCH
Council



PETER CHRONOWSKI
Council



JOSEPH MICHAELS
Council



BERNARD GAVLICK
Council



CORA SEMMENS
Borough Secretary



JOHN SHULDE Borough Treasurer



THOMAS E. MACK Borough Attorney



FRED FOWLER
Tax Collector



WALT. KLIMASIEWFSKI Street Commissioner



PAUL ALLEGRUCCI Chief of Police



WYOMING AVENUE LOOKING SOUTH FROM FIRST STREET — 1914 Councilmen, left to right: Cornelius Ward, Merle Breese, Freeman Austin, John Lowson, John Masel, Art Eicke and an unidentified person.



WYOMING AVENUE LOOKING SOUTH FROM FIRST STREET — 1900 Councilmen, left to right: Clair Murdoch, Peter Chronowski, Leo Chiavacci, Jack Dempsey, Burgess; Joseph Michaels, Bernard Gavlick and George Metcalfe.



WYOMING AVENUE — About 1915 facing North, from Eighth Street corner.



WYOMING AVENUE — 1960 facing North, from Eighth Street corner.

#### WYOMING AUXILIARY POLICE

The Wyoming Borough Auxiliary Police were organized in February, 1958, by Civilan Defense Director Bernard Gavlick.

The first class of 35 men graduated in May, 1958, after completing eight weeks of instruction under the supervision of Frank Flynn, head of the Auxiliary Police of Luzerne County.

The following served as the first officers of the Auxiliary Police: President, Leslie Lewis; Vice-President, George Legas; Secretary, Joseph Kolesar; Treasurer, Joseph Lipski; Captain, Frank Yurek.

In February, 1960 another class of 38 men graduated making this one of the largest auxiliary police organizations in Luzerne County. Thirty-five of these men have complete uniforms, and it is the hope of the organization to have more uniforms in the near future.

The auxiliary police have police powers in emergencies when called upon by the Director of Civilan Defense, the Burgess, or the Chief of Police.

The present officers are: President, William Cadugan; Vice-President, Bart Filipkowski; Secretary, Joseph Kolesar; Treasurer, Joseph Olesky; Captain, John Gurchak.

\* \* \*

#### TROOP "B" PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE

Since April 1, 1906, several months after the Pennsylvania State Police were organized by an Act of the State Legislature, Troop "B", Third District, Pennsylvania State Police has been an integral part of Wyoming. When organized, Troop "B" consisted of two officers and thirty-five enlisted men. The Troop is headquarters for the Third District comprising eleven counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Today, there are 119 men under the command of Captain Wilbur M. Smith. Major Harold T. Newman, a Wyoming resident, is commander of the Third District. Sixtyseven men are stationed at the Wyoming Barracks.

The "Barracks", as it is known locally, was leased from private owners until it was purchased by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1948 and was completely renovated.

Our Diamond Jubilee celebrants will certainly miss the "Troopers on Horses" leading the parades. On Friday, April 8, 1955, the last six



WYOMING BARRACKS

horses were taken from the "Barracks" to the State Police Training School at Hershey, Pennsylvania.

In November, 1956, a new garage was erected behind the head-quarters building. The garage has a supply room, repair shop, and storage for thirty-four vehicles.

A new "Three Bay Driving Range" was completed in February. 1957. This range, one of the most modern in the state, is used for examination of operators of motor vehicles.

Troop "B" has always been considered one of the leading Troops in the state and has been one of Wyoming's most distinguished institutions since its inception.

The following have served as Commanders of Third District with head-quarters in Wyoming:

Major William A. Clark — May, 1920 to June, 1945
Major Charles J. McRae — June, 1945 to January, 1957
Major Arthur J. Oldham — February, 1957 to February, 1960
Major Harold T. Newman — February, 1960 to present.
The following have served in Command of Troop "B", Wyoming:
Lt. Charles S. Cook — June, 1937 to January, 1944
Lt. John A. Carr — January, 1944 to July, 1945
Capt. John J. Tomek — July, 1945 to July, 1949
Capt. Albert L. Flick — August, 1949 to November, 1955
Lt. Lewis F. Owen — November, 1955 to June, 1956
Capt. (now Maj.) Harold T. Newman — June, 1956 to January, 1958
Capt. John J. Pezzant — January, 1958 to January, 1960
Capt. Wilbur M. Smith — January, 1960 to present.



MEN FROM TROOP 'B' PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE — First row: Trooper Gerald Coyne, Tr. Paul Cotter, Tr. Paul Kleckner, Maj. Harold Newman, Capt. Wilbur Smith, Lt. Joseph McIlvaine, Lt. Roger I. Spence, 1st Sgt. George O'Neill, Tr. Kurt Schweiss, Tr. Peter Grippi. Second row: Tr. John Loftus, Tr. Clifford Hawke, Tr. Eugene McGuire. Third row: Tr. George Owczarski, Corp. Aloysius McKinney, Tr. William Koscinski, Tr. Edmund Ganis. Fourth row: Sgt. Louis Shupnik, Tr. John Laskos, Tr. Francis Grogan, Tr. Jacob Ofcharsky. Fifth row: Tr. John Cummings, Tr. Joseph Petrill, Corp. John Kennedy. Sixth row: Tr. Bevan Bath, Corp. Jonas Emminger, Tr. Eugene Brennan, Tr. Primo Giuli, Sgt. Joseph Louches, Tr. Edward McGinn, Tr. Andrew Rabel, Tr. Harold Slater, Tr. Eugene Stansfield, Tr. Eugene Ware. Seventh row: Tr. Andrew Fabian, Tr. Patrick Higgins, Tr. Edward Mislan, Tr. Joseph Yaskus.



Col. John C. Groome Commissioner - 1905



Col. Frank G. McCartney Commissioner - 1960



Wyoming Barracks - Prior to 1908



Fire destroys Barracks - December, 1908



One of first cars used by State Police - May 2, 1922

#### WYOMING HOSE COMPANY NO. 1

On October 26, 1894, the Wyoming Hose Company, No. 1 was organized and chartered with the following officers: President, C. P. Knapp; Vice-President, J. D. Lloyd; Secretary, W. J. Fowler; and Treasurer, W. S. Jacobs.

The first building that housed the first piece of fire equipment was a one-story frame  $12 \times 16$  and in 1910 was replaced with the present building by the members. The building is owned by the Company and in 1923 it was leased to the Wyoming Borough Council at a yearly rental of One Dollar; this arrangement continues to the present.

The first piece of modern fire-fighting apparatus was a Reo Truck. In 1924 this was followed by an American La-France 750 Gallon Pumper.



WYOMING HOSE COMPANY NO. 1 (1901) — First row: Emit Myers, Ed LaFrance, Billy Sutliff, Dan Marks, Jim Tonrey, John Kitchen, William Greggs, Harry Eddy, John Masel, William Jacobs. Standing: Edward LaFrance, John Goode, Harry Loubaugh, Morris Shaver, George Greely, Wils France, Dick Williams, John Townend, John MacDougall, Ven Breese, Bill Hutchison, Al Myers, Skip Townend, Bert Summers, John Keller, Jack Lowson, Jim Lotten, Bill Weaver, Earl LaFrance.

Finally in 1949 a Ward La-France 750 Gallon Pumper, which is still in operation, was obtained.

In February of 1953 the members organized an Ambulance Unit and the initial drive was under way on February 28, 1953 asking for a contribution of \$2.00 per family in Wyoming. Families contributed to the drive far beyond anticpated. The first day collections were close to \$1,000. Before the close of the initial drive in October, \$3,650 had been collected. This made possible the purchase of an ambulance which was officially placed into service on April 22, 1953. The following are Ambulance Trustees: President, Wilson Detrick; Secretary, Nicholas A. Lukesh: Treasurer, George Garnett; plus John Lowson and John Kennedy.



WYOMING HOSE COMPANY NO. 1



WYOMING HOSE COMPANY NO. 2

#### WYOMING HOSE COMPANY NO. 2

This company was organized March 17, 1908 and a charter was granted on May 13, 1908. Officers at that time were: President, Richard Brown; Vice-President, William Goode; Secretary, Kenneth Wendling; and Treasurer, James E. Hess. Of the original 36 members whose names appear on the charter, three are living today. They are Ira Crawford, Exeter Township; Patrick Munley, Wyoming; and Clarence Spencer, Franklin Township.

Their first piece of fire equipment was a hand-drawn hose cart, which has been preserved and used at parades. Since its incorporation Volunteer Hose Company No. 2 has had only 3 pieces of equipment, the first and second were used trucks. In 1955, the council purchased a new Dodge Pumper for which Hose Company No. 2 donated approximately one-third toward the purchase price.

The "Bonita" Hall, as it is called, has become well known throughout the community. Many card parties, weddings and dances have been



WYOMING HOSE COMPANY NO. 2 — Seated: George Konopka, Casimer Botyrius, Joseph Sowa, Daniel Zuba, Gerald Quinn, John Elko, Edward Lisewski, Walter Klimasiewfski, Joseph Olesky, Peter Podwika. Standing: first row: Mike McDermott, Loren Strait, Anthony Truskowski, Joseph Kolesar, Bennard Gavlick, Stephen Loftus Jacob Konopka, Fred Fowler. Back row: Anthony Regula, Norbert Zendian, Joseph Kleback, Andrew Krolick, Roman Truskowski, John Zendian.

held there, since the Company has a "Club Catering License," with dining and party facilities. When St. Joseph's Church caved 13 years ago, masses were held in the hall.

Volunteer Hose Company No. 2 has long been a spirited organization. Many of its members played in the Drum and Bugle Corps, sponsored by the Company between 1937 and 1940. The Company participates in many community projects. At present it sponsors a Little League Team, and make substantial contributions to the playground association, the children's Christmas party and other civic drives.

Its regular membership totals approximately 200 and its social membership 800. The present officers of the Company are: President, Peter Podwika; Vice-President, Charles Cupani; Secretary, Bernard Gavlick; and Treasurer, John Olesky. The Directors are: George Endrusick, John Elko, Edward Roback, Anthony Regula, Frank Yurek, Leonard Zendian, and Leonard Zavada.



John Lowson Fire Chief 1909



Henry Wojciechowicz Fire Chief 1960

#### WYOMING FIRE CHIEF

The State Law requires that, where there are two or more Fire Companies in a town, there shall be a Fire Chief elected.

"At a combined meeting (December 18, 1908) of No. 1 Hose Co. and Volunteer Hose Co. No. 2, four men were nominated for Fire Chief and two for Assistant Chief.

"Fire Chief nominees were: J. J. Tonrey, John Kellar, John Lowson and W. B. Somers.

"John Lowson won over his opponents to become the first Fire Chief of Wyoming Borough.

"Mr. Lowson was installed as Fire Chief at a special meeting of Volunteer Hose Co. No. 2 and Hose Co. No. 1 at the Hose House of No. 2 Company on February 11, 1909. A luncheon followed the installation."

#### WYOMING FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION

The Wyoming Firemen's Relief Association was organized and chartered July 6, 1908. The members whose names appear on the charter were: S. L. Phillips, William Stocker, George A. Graley, John Lowson, William T. Hutchins, James Eagen, D. P. Marks, Edward Bealer, J. M. Schooley, R. J. Stiff and Maurice Shafer.

In January of 1960 the Relief Association voted to issue a \$200 insurance policy without cost, to all members of the Fire Department. The officers of the Relief at present are: President, Steve Loftus; Vice-President, Michael Biskup; Secretary, Leonard Zendian; and Treasurer, George Garnett.

#### WYOMING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Public education has played an important part in the community life of the borough of Wyoming. A search of available records indicates that the length of the school term in Wyoming has remained at nine months for one hundred and fifty-five years.

William Brewster in his "History of Certified Kingston Township" says that "It is highly creditable to those Kingston farmers that they provided for a nine months term of school" nearly thirty years before the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania extended it bounty to its children by the establishment of the common school system in 1843.

Records of the Court of Quarter Sessions as of April 1801, which Blair in his "Michael Shoemaker Book" refers to, notes that a school house stood at the present corner of Eighth Street and Wyoming Avenue prior



WYOMING SCHOOL BOARD — Seated: Charles Lahr, Frank S. Zavacki, President; William R. Ridgley, Treasurer. Standing: Gail B. Young, Supervising Principal; Alfred Delano, Melvin Barry, Secretary; Attorney Albert B. Carrozza, Solicitor.

to 1801 and remained there until 1813 or 1814 when Lot Breese moved it to the "School House Lot" now a part of the James Tonrey estate on Wyoming Avenue, opposite the Wyoming Theater. This school house stood on Wyoming Avenue for about fifty years when it was sold at auction to Payne Pettebone who moved it to West Sixth Street where it was turned into a dwelling house. The land on which this house stood, long since torn down, is now part of the Wyoming Cemetery.

Schools for the youth of Wyoming were conducted in other places as well as in school houses. In April, 1864, William Swetland was granted permission to fit the basement of the Methodist Church as a school room. In the years 1913 and 1914 the second floor of Number 1 Hose House on



FACULTY OF WYOMING BOROUGH SCHOOLS (1935) — Seated: Theodore Keen, Irma Kelly, R. U. Nyhart, Margaret Fetch, Henry Carickner, John E. Piatt, Supervising Principal; Grace Keener, Walter Rygiel, D. H. Lewis, Edgar Dickert, Kentley R. Jones. Second row: Emma York, Iris Spencer, Mrs. J. Evans, Marion Stem, Talitha Conrad, Ruth Brown, Irene Hooper, Fanny Kitchen, Jennie Morris, Grace Newton, Annie Smith, Marien Boehm. Third row: Lillian Buxton, Ethel Symons, Helen Cruikshank, Sarah Francis, Isabelle Lawson, Veronica Belarski, Geraldine Hall, Aldona Reklaitis, Edith Brace, Ellen McKeehan, Grace Hearn, Mary Ann Powell, Helen J. Cruikshank.



FACULTY OF WYOMING BOROUGH SCHOOLS (1960) — Seated: Jean Wilson, Sarah Francis, Verna Mulhern, Margaret Fetch, Claire Wyandt, Isabelle Baldauski, Joanne Marfisi, Grace Hearn, Margaret Wallace, Marien Boehm, Gertrude Bryden, Blanche Morgan, Truant Officer. Second row: Grace Shoemake, Helen Dunbar, Edith Brace, Elementary Principal; Mary Catherine Egan, Irene Hooper, Jennie Morris, Elementary Principal; Ellen McKeehan, Frieda Shaver, School Nurse; Cornelia Stephenson, Secretary; Florence Kennedy, Kathryn B. Hall, County Special Educable Class; Eva R. Thrachtenberg, County Physically Handicapped Class. Third row: Kentley R. Jones, Frank Matty, Gene Allegrucci, Vincent Zinkavich, Peter Podwika, Andrew Mazzarella, Gail B. Young, Supervising Principal; Theodore R. Keen, High School Principal; Joseph S. Olesky, Joseph Knish, Armond Casterline, Vito A. Mazzitelli, John G. Mills. Absent: Ethel Symons, Veronica Belarski, Concetta Di Mirco, John Zwirek.

Eighth Street was fitted as classrooms to take care of the rising school enrollment. The records of the Luzerne Presbyterial Institute, now a part of the property of the Wyoming Presbyterian Church, show that the Institute building was used for many years for public school purposes.

The oldest school building in Wyoming, excepting the Institute, is the Butler Street building erected in 1877. This building, still in use has been kept in good repair over the years and from time to time has been renovated to conform to the requirements as set forth by the State Department of Public Instruction.

These above mentioned schools offered the youth of Wyoming a

grade school education.

In 1895 the Eighth Street school was erected at which time a high school was established. This first high school was a three year high



WYOMING MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL — BUILT 1936

school. In 1907 a four year curriculum was introduced into the system. The class of 1911 has the honor of holding the first four years diplomas.

The class of 1913 was the last class to graduate from the Eighth Street high school as the School Board, faced with increasing enrollments. provided for the erection of a new high school building at the corner of Sixth Street and Monument Avenue in 1914. This building was dedicated on Labor Day of that same year. The principal speaker was Martin G. Brumbaugh, later governor, whose dedication address was the opening speech in his campaign for governor. The auditorium and gymnasium were added to the building in 1923 at a cost of \$65,000. The dedication address was made by Simeon D. Fess, United States Senator from Ohio. The Honorable Lorenzo D. Thomas, then pastor of the Wyoming Baptist Church and Representative from the Sixth Legislative District of Pennsylvania, also spoke.

To cope with further increase of the school population two portable buildings of two rooms each were erected at the Sixth Street and the Eighth Street school sites.

The Wyoming Board of Education, anticipating the growing educational needs of the community, purchased 31/2 acres of land on Tenth

Street in 1928 at a cost of \$40,000.

In 1937 the present Memorial High School building was erected to provide educational facilities for the secondary school population grades, seven to twelve. The citizens of Wyoming approved a bond issue of \$150,000 by a four to one majority. In addition, the Federal Government under the existing laws, which granted aid to school construction, provided a cash grant of \$117,000 to make this building a reality. To the rear of this new building the Board of Education, taking advantage of further federal school aid caused to be made an athletic stadium in the form of a bowl which has given the youth of Wyoming one of the finest playing fields in this part of the Commonwealth.

The dedicatory exercises were held in the auditorium of the new Memorial High School. The principal speaker was Lester B. Oddie. Superintendent of Public Instruction for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. F. P. Cope, County Superintendent of Schools, was in attendance with

members of his staff and the local school officials.

On this Diamond Jubilee Anniversary of the Borough of Wyoming, the people of Wyoming can take pride in the material facilities which the various Wyoming Boards of Education have provided for their





Butler Street Elementary School - Built 1877 Sixth Street Elementary School - Built 1914

children. The following have served as school directors since 1937: William R. Ridgley, 1937; Thomas M. Beaney, 1939; Warren Williams, 1941; Howard Shaver, 1943; Arthur Buffton, 1944; Andrew Kufta, 1947; Milton Jacoby, 1948; Bernard Piorkowski, 1949; John Marfisi, 1952; Frank Zavacki, 1944; Melvin Barry, 1956; Charles Lahr, 1957; Alfred Delano, 1959.

The following men have served as supervising principals since the incorporation of the borough in 1885: H. L. Morgan, 1886-90; J. Frank Smith, 1901; W. A. Sanford, September to December, 1891; A. F. Kraut, 1891-92; G. M. Wilner, 1892-94; W. H. Hench, 1894-97; Charles W. Herman, 1897-1900; W. R. Williams, 1900-09; James Shaw, 1909-12; Asa Lewis, 1912-15; R. G. Jolly, June to November, 1915; John E. Piatt, 1915-47; Gail B. Young, 1947 to date. Present Board of Education is made up of the following members: President, Frank Zavacki; Vice-President, Charles Lahr; Treasurer, William R. Ridgley; Secretary, Melvin Barry; Member, Alfred Delano; and Solicitor, Albert A. Carrozza.

#### WYOMING SCHOOL BOARD

The Wyoming School Board has cooperated in all of the plans of the Diamond Jubilee committee and was represented on the Executive Planning Committee by the school district's supervising principal, Gail B.

Young, and the Secretary of the School Board, Melvin Barry.

The Board is proud of the vital part that the schools have played in the progress and welfare of the community. Realizing the importance of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Borough, Mr. Young requested Mr. K. R. Jones, member of the High School faculty and prominent local historian, to compile a brief history of the school system. This historical account appears in this publication. All our citizens and their Jubilee guests are invited to read this excellent article.

#### WYOMING FREE LIBRARY

One of Wyoming's important institutions is the Wyoming Free Library housed in one of the few colonial landmarks remaining in town. The building is located on Wyoming Avenue in the heart of the business district.

The Library was organized in August, 1927 with the following as charter members: Mrs. W. C. Baldwin, Mrs. John P. DeWitt, Mrs. A. B. Evans, Mrs. Harry Miller, Mrs. Smith Phillips, Mrs. J. B. Schooley, Mrs. Frank Schwartz, Mrs. Arthur Shoemaker, Mrs. Allen Wallace, Mrs. A. B. Schooley and Mrs. Ray Saunders.

The Library was supported through the efforts of the Wyoming Woman's Club, formerly the Civic League of Wyoming. This society was organized for the purpose of fostering and supporting community interests. The Library has been its main project through the years. Much interest



WYOMING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION — Seated: Mrs. Walter Arnold, Mrs. James Law, Jr., Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Wm. Carey, Jr., Mrs. David Morgan, Mrs. Theodore Keen, Mrs. Smith Phillips, Mrs. Robert Stroh, Mrs. Samuel Hockaday, Librarian. Standing: Gail B. Young, Joseph Olesky, Treasurer; George Metcalfe, Rev. Guy Leinthall, Vice-President; Atty. Ivo Giannini, Coray Miller, President; Burgess Charles Greco, Charles Golden, Jr., Recording Secretary; Atty. Allan Kluger, Burgess Jack Dempsey. Absent when picture was taken: Rev. William Medlock, Mrs. J. P. DeWitt, Mrs. James Pyne, Mrs. Lewis Winans, William R. Ridgley, Harold Wickey, Theodore A. Pawloski.

has been manifested by other organizations of our borough as well as our Council.

The late Mrs. Kate Pettebone Dickson donated the use of the building, next to the Methodist Episcopal Church, to house the Library. The continued use of this building has been made possible through the generosity and interest of Mrs. Franck G. Darte, who recently deeded the property to the Wyoming Free Library Association.

In the beginning, after securing the use of the building, the rooms were redecorated, shelves installed and books collected. Many books have been given by people of our community, including the private library of the late Mr. Archibald H. Law. The Library has grown from a few books to approximately 7,000 volumes.

The Library is open three afternoons and three evenings each week. It supplies books to our local students in order to supplement the school libraries. The Library also proves useful to many of our college students.

The Wyoming Free Library has been incorporated and since 1957 has been governed by a Board of Directors with the following now serving as officers: Coray H. Miller, President; Rev. Guy A. Leinthall, Vice-President; Charles J. Golden, Jr., Recording Secretary; Mrs. James B. Law, Jr., Corresponding Secretary; Joseph S. Olesky, Treasurer; and Mrs. Jessie Hockaday, Librarian.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### WYOMING P.T.A.

The organization meeting of the Parent-Teachers Association was held January 29, 1952 at the home of Mrs. Milton Jacoby. About thirty interested teachers and parents attended this meeting, out of which grew cur present P.T.A. organization. Mrs. Samuel Bosch presided as chairman. The first regular meeting of the Wyoming P.T.A. was then held February 11, 1952, with about 125 parents and teachers attending.

The first officers were: President, Samuel H. Harrison; Vice-President Stephen Tomaskovic; Secretary, Mrs. Daniel Roberts; and Treasurer, Joseph Olesky. Our president at this time is Mr. Andrew Rabel, who will be succeeded by Edward McGroarty in 1960.

The Parent-Teachers Association has been in progress since 1952 and has accomplished many fine things. Through the combined efforts of the P.T.A. and the Borough Council, police have been stationed at busy thoroughfares to assist small children across the streets. A special award is given each year to the high school student with the highest average, and donations have been given to the town library and to the Playground and Recreational Association each year.

Our project committees have contributed many needed items. They have purchased a large coffee urn, steel cabinets, new band uniforms, majorette outfits, an opaque projector, cabinets for classrooms and electric clocks. In 1958, an audiometer was purchased, to be used throughout the three buildings, and a transistor radio was placed in each school building. The school library has been supplied with reference books.



SAINT JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

#### ST. JOSEPH'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

During the latter part of the nineteenth and the beginning of the twentieth century when many Polish-speaking people arrived in the Wyoming-West Wyoming area, the nearest Catholic Church for them was Saint John the Baptist Polish Church, Exeter. Most of these people became members of that parish.



Rev. Edward S. Manikowski

Several years later, a group from the Wyoming-West Wyoming area decided to form their own parish and to erect a church in Wyoming which would be more convenient for them.

In April, 1913 Paul Koczkodan, Konstanty Duda, Albert Rygiel, Jakob Kawlick, Andrew Sabaczynski, Franciszka Jankowska, and Frank Lysiak in trust for the Saint Joseph's Polish Roman Catholic Church and Congregation of Wyoming purchased two lots having a 132 foot flontage on Sixth Street. In May, 1914 contracts were let to construct the basement and to fit it for church uses.

Starting on January 1, 1914 the Parish was served in short periods by Rev. Chester Duzynski, Fev. Narcissus Sosnowski, Rev. Dominic Tomkiewicz and Rev. Anthony Dudkiewicz until

the arrival of Rev. Joseph J. Losieniecki on August 15, 1919. He administered the spiritual needs of the parish for 23 years. The garage and meeting hall were erected during his pastorate. He established afterschool classes to instruct the children of the parish in Catechism and in reading and writing the Polish language. On October 1, 1942, Father Losieniecki was transferred and presently he is Pastor of St. Hedwig's Church, Kingston, Pa.

Father Losieniecki was followed by Rev. Stanislaus P. Gayewski, now deceased, until September 18, 1945, and by the present pastor, Rev. Edward S. Manikowski. The latter has been instrumental in obtaining a new church for the parishioners of St. Joseph's. Although a mine subsidence made it advisable to wait at least ten years before contemplating the erection of a new church Father Manikowski, with foresight, immediately and successfully set forth to establish a building fund. Early in 1957, with the danger of mine settlement no longer a threat, the campaign for the new church was renewed with utmost vigor.

After much serious deliberation, the Most Reverend Jerome D. Hannan, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese of Scranton, approved the new church. The cornerstone was laid on March 16, 1958 and the building was dedicated on Sunday, October 5, 1958.

A further sign of the vigor of the parish has been the need of Assistant Pastors. The following have served since 1945: Rev. Stanley C. Stungis, Rev. Andrew J. Krusinski, Rev. Aloysius A. Ziemba, and Rev. Joseph E. Papka.



WYOMING METHODIST CHURCH

#### THE METHODIST CHURCH IN WYOMING

The people called "Methodists" came to the Valley with the first settlers. The first society was formed and held services as early as 1793 in the home of Philip Jackson, afterward known as the Fisher Gay place, near where the Wyoming Monument now stands.

Circuit riders, appointed by Bishop Francis Asbury, rode the Circuit which ranged from Sunbury on the south to Waverly, New York, on the north and Canaan in Wayne County on the east. Their regular preaching places in this community were the Jackson home, the "Captain Breese House," which stood near the depot, or the district schoolhouse.

On October 6, 1842, the Methodist Society for the sum of ten dollars purchased from Volney L. Maxwell and his wife Lydia the property originally built and used by the Christian Church. This building is now a part of the structure known as the Wyoming Theater. The trustees of the society were Ezra Breese, John Goodwin, Philo Bowers, George M. Peck, pastor, and John Jenkins.



Rev. Guy A. Leinthall

In 1848, the year after a revival conducted by Rev. A. H. Pearne had greatly strengthened the church, a pastoral change was formed which included New Troy (Wyoming's early name), with Exeter (West Pittston), and Forty Fort as afternoon appointments. By 1860 Kingston and New Troy were linked in a circuit. In 1861 the listing was Wyoming and Kingston. In 1864 the charge was divided and, since that time, Wyoming has been a pastoral charge in its own right.

The church property was sold in 1881 and the present property acquired by purchase the next year. A house standing thereon was moved to the back of the lot and has, since that time, served as a residence for the Sexton. In 1882 a new house was erected to serve as a residence for the Minister. On July 18, 1883, the present church building, a gift of the Payne Pettebone family in memory of William Swetland and family, was dedicated and consecrated. In 1925, an addition, known as the Sunday School building was erected as a gift of Mrs. Carolyn Pettebone Dickson in memory of her parents and grandparents. Still later the Church received a three-manual Teller Organ, given by Mrs. Franck Darte in memory of her parents.

Pastors who have served the Church since 1935 are: 1929-36, George G. Summerson; 1937-40, J. Arthur Jones; 1941-43, Clarence L. Andrews; 1943-47, Clifford F. Bound; 1948-51, George A. Roberts; 1952, W. Arthur Weber; 1953 to present, Guy A. Leinthall.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

#### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WYOMING

The people of Wyoming, who followed the Baptist teachings, first met informally in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ebenezer Lloyd on Wyoming Avenue. The growing size of the group and the increased program by 1885 included Sunday School. Late in 1892 the Church was formally



Rev. William J. Medlock

organized and housed on Butler Street. Two years later, however, the congregation moved to the corner of Monument Avenue and Eighth Street — its present location.

After conducting services in the foundation of the Church for many years, the generosity of Levi Shoemaker, who remembered this Church in his will, made the present brick structure possible. The bell was given by Hon. P. F. Joyce of Pittston; the organ by Henry German of Wilkes-Barre.

Rev. George F. Haines who came in 1929 was still pastor in 1935 at the time of the fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the Borough.

After Rev. Haines resigned, Rev. George Faint was interim pastor until Rev. J. Paul Faust was called in 1941. He was followed by Rev. John E. Donovan in 1946; Rev. Earl Kohl (interim), 1952; Rev. Samuel Lowe, 1952; Rev. Warren T. Lynes (interim), 1957; and Rev. William J. Medlock, 1957.

In November, 1949, the last payment on the note incurred in 1924, when the present Eighth Street building was erected, was paid, and the mortgage was burned.

The parsonage, No. 52 East Eighth Street, was built in 1907.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

#### THE WYOMING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian influence in the Wyoming area spread from the formation of the Presbyterian Church in the Philadelphia area through land owners and settlers so that by the early 1800's the Luzerne Association of Congregational Churches became Susquehanna Presbytery.



Rev. David R. Dresser

Following a spiritual revival in 1818, the Presbyterians of Kingston, Wyoming and Exeter, formerly connected with the Wilkes-Barre Church, formed their own congregation. By 1847 residents of Wyoming felt the need of a local congregation. There were thirty names on the petition sent to Luzerne Presbytery. Presbytery granted permission to form the congregation, elders were elected and the first pastor was called.

A major project begun under the first pastor, Rev. J. D. Mitchell, was a parochial school which was called Luzerne Presbyterial Institute. For almost thirty years several pastors called to the Wyoming pulpit served not only as pastor of the church but principal of the Institute as well.

Soon after Rev. George Wells Ely became pastor in 1878, a Sunday School was begun at Maltby in a schoolhouse. The work grew, a chapel was erected, and in 1889 a new congregation was formed around the nucleus of 56 members who transferred their letters from the Wyoming church to form the Stella Presbyterian Church.

Membership of the church has grown from the original thirty to the present 354. Two major periods of increase are recorded: during the pastorate of Rev. W. Scott Stites, 1884-87 over one hundred members were received on profession of faith; 138 new members were received during the period 1914-1920 under Pastor Robert S. McKee. The present pastor, period 1914-1920 under Pastor Robert S. McKee. The present pastor, Rev. David R. Dresser, called in 1956, is the twenty-first minister to serve the church over its 113 years of growth.

The first structure was built to house the Luzerne Presbyterial Institute in 1848. This building underwent extensive alterations in 1927 under the pastorship of Rev. Roy H. Sinclair to adapt it to the needs of the church. Wings were added, the kitchen enlarged, partitions were removed. It remains today as the educational and social building of the Wyoming Presbyterian Church. It has been entered on the records of the Library of Congress as a building to be preserved as a model of early colonial architecture.

The original manse was built in 1850 on property given by David Perkins and his daughter when suitable lodging could not be obtained for the new pastor, Rev. Eugene Stevenson. A new manse was built during the pastorate of Rev. Robert S. McKee, 1914-1920.

The sanctuary, erected in 1857 on a lot purchased the previous year, suffered extensive damage from a mine settlement in 1941 just following completion of interior decorating. Damage was repaired and interior work

done over. Decision was made to repair rather than remove the steeple in 1946.

A pipe ogan was installed during the pastorate of Rev. LeRoy L. Daniel, 1910-1913, which is still in use. Bell chimes were given in 1940 by the late Abbie Polen.

Under the leadership of Pastor William Caldwell, a new addition which serves as pastor's study, church office, and choir room was completed in 1956.

\* \* \* \* \*



WYOMING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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WYOMING

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Vice-President	Charles Cupani
Secretary	Bernard Gavlick
Treasurer	John Oleski



#### **DIRECTORS**

Anthony Regula Frank Yurek
Leonard Zendian Edward Roback
John Elko George Endrusick

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Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

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Wyoming, Pa.

President	Hubert Gilmore
Vice-President	James Jeffery
Secretary	AT' 1 . l Tl. anh
Treasurer	Edward Eckroth

#### **Directors**

Edward Murry

Michael Biskup, President George Garnett Joseph Kopcza Nicholas Lukesh

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#### WYOMING CEMETERY

Some evidence indicates that the first graveyard was established to bury the dead after the Battle of Wyoming. In the days to follow informal family arrangements were made until 1838. At that time the present location of the Wyoming Cemetery was determined by the action of Jacob I. Shoemaker. He set aside a plot for his wife.

This arrangement was institutionalized when the Wyoming Cemetery was incorporated on June 30, 1864. The following men were named in the original articles of incorporation: Isaac Shoemaker, Jesse B. Schooley, Thomas Hutchins, Steuben Jenkins, William S. Shoemaker and John Breese. Almost a century later, the present trustees are: K. W. Hessler, George Goode, Russell Pembridge, Charles Lahr, Edward Whitely, George Metcalfe and Ethel Durland.

The veterans of many wars are honored each Memorial Day by special services. Wyoming has its unknown soldier; a hero's grave has been made anonymous by the action of the weather on his stone.



Swetland Homestead - Built 1797

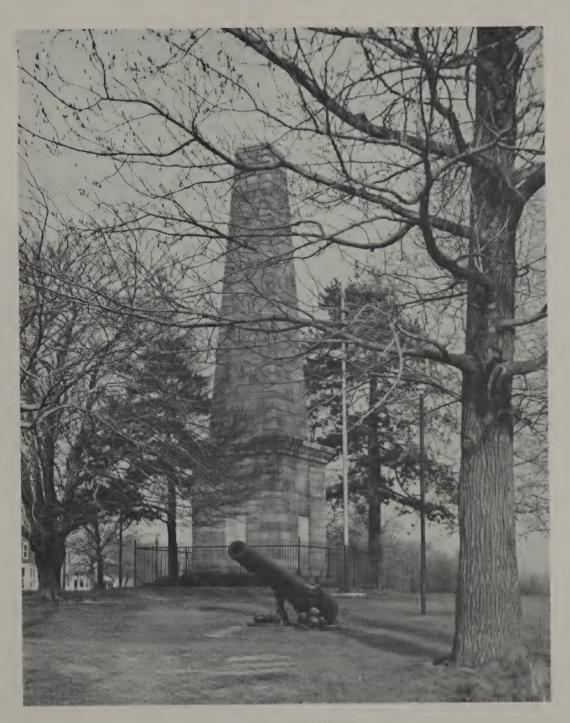
Pettebone Homestead - Built 1865



Site of First National Bank of Wyoming Prior to 1911



First National Bank of Wyoming Erected 1912



WYOMING MONUMENT

#### WYOMING MONUMENT ASSOCIATION

The Wyoming Monument Association, which by special act of the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1860, holds title to the monument and grounds, meets once a year shortly before the anniversary of the Battle and Massacre at Wyoming, July 3, 1778. Its predecessor, the Ladies Monumental Association, was organized to complete the Wyoming Monument which was started in 1833. Women from all parts of the Valley raised money by various means and were largely instrumental in completing the erection of the Wyoming Monument.

Once the monument was completed, attention was given to the care and upkeep of the property. The most recent project of the Monument



WYOMING MONUMENT ASSOCIATION — Left to right: Mrs. Harradon H. Smith, Treasurer; Mrs. James B. Law, Jr., Secretary; Mrs. Coray H. Miller, President; Miss Lena Baldwin, Historian; Mrs. G. B. LaFrance, Second Vice-President. Absent when picture was taken: Mrs. Harry C. Miller, Honorary President and Past President for thirty-five years; Mrs. J. Frank Smith, Honorary Vice-President; and Mrs. Edwin Shortz, First Vice-President.

Association has been the illumination of the monument which was completed July, 1959. The monument is now lighted nightly and the Borough Council pays the cost of the current. Moreover, the Association assists in the expense for the memorial services held each year by the Wyoming Commemorative Association on July the Fourth.

Dues have remained unchanged since the inception of the Association and perpetual memberships given as memorials are the chief sources

of income. The highlight of the annual meeting, which is held each June, is the program usually consisting of a historical address.

Officers of the Association are as follows: Honorary President, Mrs. Harry C. Miller; President, Mrs. Coray H. Miller; Honorary Vice-President, Mrs. J. Frank Smith; First Vice-Pesident, Mrs. Edwin Shortz; Second Vice-President, Mrs. G. B. LaFrance; Secretary, Mrs. James B. Law, Jr.; Treasurer, Mrs. Harradon Smith; Librarian, Miss Lena H. Baldwin.

WYOMING COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION

In June, 1877, Calvin Parsons and Steuben Jenkins met by chance in the grounds of the Luzerne County Court House, then standing in Public Square, Wilkes-Barre. Both men being familiar with the feeling in general in the community that some fitting observance should be made the next summer of the hundredth anniversary of the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming, decided to call a meeting of those most interested on July third. Out of this meeting developed the Wyoming Centennial Association which successfully organized the exercises on the third of July, 1878, under the presidency of Col. Charles Dorrance. When the centennial was over, the Wyoming Centennial Association, a special organization whose reason for existence had passed, changed into the Wyoming Commemorative Association, a general organization whose duty it is to fill the yearly need. The Association, under its new name, was incorporated in 1881, and has, without exception, provided the commemorative exercises each Third of July, at the foot of the monument, until a few years ago when it was decided to change the date of the exercises to the Fourth of July.

The present officers of the Wyoming Commemorative Association are as follows: President, Colonel Thomas H. Atherton; Vice-Presidents, Harry B. Schooley, Jr., Charles H. Miner, Jr., Edward Darling, William L. Conyngham, 2nd, Abram Nesbitt 2nd; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Bruce Payne; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Charles S. Frantz; Treasurer, Coray H. Miller; Librarian, Dr. Richmond D. Williams, Director, Wyoming Historical and Geological Society.



Queen Esther's Rock



Wyoming Presbyterian Institute Erected 1848

\* \* \* \* \*

# LADIES AUXILIARY FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Fraternal Order of Eagles was created at a meeting April 1, 1951. Grand Aerie Instituting Officer Francis N. Kiefer of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, presided.

The Degree team of Scranton Auxiliary No. 134 initiated the 48 candidates present and also installed the following officers: Junior Past Madam President, Evelyn Clark; Madam President, Rose Turchetti; Madam Vice-President, Mary Shatrowskas; Madam Chaplain, Lena Catell; Madam Secretary, Anna Sedlak; Madam Treasurer, Louise Cavello; Madam Conductress, Nora Robbins; Madam Inside Guard, Margaret Walutes; Madam Outside Guard, Mary Long; Madam Trustee (3 years), Pauline Cuba; Madam Trustee (2 years), Betty LaNunziata; Madam Trustee (1 year), Margaret Masel; and Mother of the year, Blanche Gatrone.

The Auxiliary meets the first and third Tuesday of every month at 8:30 P.M. at the club rooms of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, No. 1965.

#### GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scouting began in Wyoming in 1937, with the organizing of Intermediate Troop 32, with Mrs. Gertrude Houck as leader and Mrs. James Bartholomew as assistant. Later, it was divided into two sections with Mrs. Anthony Santasania and Mrs. James Colonna as leaders. Mrs. Levi Thomas became the next leader followed by Mrs. Nels Munson in 1949, who has since continued to be the leader, and who has the longest registration and years of service. In 1959, Troop 32 was divided into two troops with Mrs. George Batey becoming the leader of the new troop 81.

Brownie Troop 138 was started in 1949 by Mrs. Carlton Hislop as leader. In 1952 Mrs. Donald Boettger assumed leadership of the troop assisted by Mrs. Jonas Emminger who later became leader. In 1959 the troop was divided and Troop 238 was started with Miss Margaret Burawski as leader.

In 1953 Senior Troop 4 was started in Wyoming by Miss Pauline Acquilina. Mrs. Kenneth Ransom became leader of the troop in 1956. A



LEADERS OF GIRL SCOUTS IN WYOMING — First row: Mrs. John Conroy, Mrs. William Murphy, Mrs. Michael Socash, Mrs. Coray H. Miller, Neighborhood Chairman; Mrs. Nels Munson, Troop Organizer; and Mrs. Leon Galavitz. Standing: Mrs. Walter F. Searfoss, Mrs. Jonas Emminger, Troop Consultant; Miss Margaret Burawski, Mrs. Kenneth Ransom, Mrs. Paul Witheridge, Mrs. George Batey, and Mrs. William Root. Absent when picture was taken: Mrs. Michael Ryan, Miss Beverly Munson, and Mrs. Gerald Gatti.

new Senior Troop has recently been organized with Mrs. Paul Witheridge as leader.

The Neighborhood Plan was put into effect in 1955 with the Neighborhood Service Team, composed of Mrs. Coray H. Miller, Neighborhood Chairman; Mrs. Nels Muson, Troop Organizer; and Mrs. Jonas Emminger, Troop Consultant, becoming the coordinator of all Scouting activities in Wyoming Neighborhood. Wyoming Neighborhood, comprising the towns of Wyoming, West Wyoming and Exeter, is one of three Neighborhoods in Pittston District which is directly under the jurisdiction of the Wyoming Valley Girl Scout Council.

The scouting program was started in Wyoming with eighteen girls and in the ensuing years with the addition of five new troops, approximately 150 girls are now being serviced by sixteen trained leaders and eighteen committee women. Most of these troops hold their meetings in the Institute through the courtesy of the Wyoming Presbyterian Church.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### THE I.L.G.W.U. IN WYOMING'S GARMENT SHOPS

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union arrived in Wyoming in 1942, when the first dress factory, the Wyoming Garment, became a Union shop. Today, there are seven ladies' garment shops in Wyoming — all are ILGWU shops and they employ over 750 union members. The largest shop is the M. K. Manufacturing Company employing 285 men and women. The Wyoming Garment employs 96, Wyoming Frocks 85, Smalltown 75, George-Ann Fashions 70, Dixie Frocks 65, and the J. & R. Dress 60.

Wages in the garment shops range from a minimum of \$1.15 an hour to as high as \$2.75 an hour. The hours of work are seven per day, with time and a half for overtime. A Health and Welfare Fund financed by the employer and administered by the Union provides many fringe benefits to the members.

The ILGWU members in Wyoming take an active part in all community campaigns, especially the United Fund. Min Lurye Matheson is Manager of the Wyoming Valley District ILGWU which embraces 144 shops from Duryea to Glen Lyon. Officers for Pittston Local No. 295 are: President, Jennie Bialasz; Vice-President, Helen DePhillips; Secretary, Rose DeRosa; Activities Director, Ann Grippe.

#### WYOMING LODGE NO. 468 F. & A. M.

Wyoming Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons was constituted as a Lodge in May, 1870, at which time they met on the third floor of what is now the Wyoming Paper Company Building. Charter members were: P. W. Polen, L. F. Shoemaker, Henry Polen, T. J. Sharpe, R. R. Laycock, Miller Paterson, W. J. Bennet, and F. F. Brees.

In the year 1926, at which time Mr. Leroy E. Thomas was Worshipful Master, the place of meeting was moved to its present location of the third floor of the Scureman Building.

Present elective officers are: Charles F. Quinn, Worshipful Master; John Elias, Senior Warden; Ralph B. Vosburg, Junior Warden; Matthew B. Carey, Treasurer; William A. King, Secretary; Leroy Thomas, John R. Coutts, Arthur Webb, Trustees; and William A. Hodge, Representative in Grand Lodge.

### QUEEN ESTHER POST 670 AMERICAN LEGION

Queen Esther Post 670, The American Legion, was organized December 6, 1934; John W. Phillips was its first commander. Of the 25 members who composed the original Post at the time of its charter, only John Falconi, Andrew Mazzarella and Leo J. Tonrey still remain as active members.

Through the years the Post has been very active in civic and patriotic endeavors. A few of the many projects of the local Legion have in-



QUEEN ESTHER POST 670, THE AMERICAN LEGION — Seated: Leonard Zavada, Historian; Charles Mazzarella, Adjutant; Gene Lukesh, Commander; Nicholas Pappas, Finance Officer; Robert Warnagiris, Sergeant-at-Arms. Standing: Michael McDermott, Richard Parsons, William Zavada, Paul Warnagiris, Senior Vice-Commander; Joseph Hiznay, Jr., Junior Vice-Commander; and Robert Stubbs, Chaplain.

cluded War Bond drives, Air Raid Wardens, Scrap drives, Servicemen's Farewell Committees, and Military Rites. The most important recent projects are Memorial Day Services, High School Oratorical Contests, and Junior-Senior High School Citizenship Awards.

The present officers are: Commander, Eugene V. Lukesh; Senior Vice-Commander, Paul Warnigiris; Adjutant, Charles P. Mazzarella; Historian, Bernard Gilligan; Sergeant-at-Arms, Robert Warnigiris; Chaplain, Robert Stubbs; Finance Officer, Nicholas Pappas; and Junior Vice-Commander, Leonard Zavada.

\* \* \* \* \*

# AUXILIARY TO QUEEN ESTHER POST 670 AMERICAN LEGION

On February 15, 1935, in response to notices carried by local newspapers, a meeting was held in Tonrey's Funeral Parlor, Wyoming Avenue, for the purpose of organizing an Auxiliary to Queen Esther Post 670, The American Legion. Application was made for a charter to the American Legion Auxiliary. In the absence of the Post Commander, John Phillips, Senior Vice-Commander Annick acted as chairman for the Auxiliary. Mrs. Lena Brady, deceased, acted as temporary chairman while Mae T. Decker was temporary secretary.

At the next meeting of the Auxiliary on February 26, 1935, the following officers were elected: President, Miss Irene Hooper; First Vice-



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, POST 670 — Seated: Mrs. Mary Space, First Vice-President; Mrs. Frances Warnagiris, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Catherine Reichart, Director; Denise Zawila, Jr., Member; Mrs. Amelia Falconi, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Mildred Mazzarella, Historian. Standing: Mrs. Marie Krol, Sergeant-at-Arms; Mrs. Emma Zawila, Treasurer; Mrs. Rosalie Kovack, President; Mrs. Louella Perfetto, Secretary; Mrs. Carmella Stubbs, Chaplain; Mrs. Rose Castagna, Charter Historian.

President, Mrs. Lena Brady; Second Vice-President, Mrs. Mary Gaughan; Recording Secretary, Mae Decker; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Charles Venetz; Treasurer, Mrs. May Golden; Chaplain, Mrs. Jacob Phillips; and Historian, Rose Grillo.

On July 2, 1935 during Old Home Week, the Auxiliary took part with the Post in Memorial Services at Queen Esther Rock. According to all available records this was the first service held at Queen Esther Rock with the exception of the dedication ceremonies by the Daughters of the American Revolution. Charter members still active are: Mrs. Amelia Falconi, Mrs. Mary Space, Mrs. Mildred Mazzarella, Miss Irene Hopper, Mrs. Ann Riley, Mrs. Catharine Reichert, and Mrs. Rose Grillo Castagna.

#### TROY COUNCIL 78

### JUNIOR ORDER UNITED AMERICAN MECHANICS

On August 27, 1885, the Troy Council 78 was instituted in Polen's Hall at Wyoming, Pa. The thirteen members enrolled on the charter were: Dr. E. S. Hayes, Fred A. Jacobs, A. P. Barber, Payne Shaffer, Robert Miller, George Richmond, James Cowles, Allan Weaver, Harry Sounders, R. Labar, Harry Laubaugh, Paul Somers, and H. J. Hoover. The work of organizing and instituting the Council was done by Brother William H. Reed and fellow members of Ashley Council 149 plus members of the Columbia Council 43 of Wilkes-Barre.

The first officers elected were Past Junior Councilor, Dr. E. S. Hayes; Councilor, P. H. Polen; Vice-Councilor, J. G. Cowles; Recording Secretary, George Richmond; Assistant Secretary, H. J. Hoover; Financial Secretary, A. P. Barber; Treasurer, Fred A. Jacobs; Conductor, Allan Weaver; Warden, H. J. Saunders; Inside Sentinel, Harry Laubaugh; and Outside Sentinel, Payne Chaffer. Trustees were George Richmond, R. A. Miller, and P. H. Polen.

The first members to be initiated were C. H. Townsend, H. C. Townsend, William Stocker, Charles Crouse, William Tracy, Ira Kresge, Al Depew, D. Depew, John Hopper.

By 1929 the Troy Council was able to build a suitable meeting place at the corner of Butler and Eighth Streets. This building was designed by Howard Mathers.

The present officers are: Past Junior Councilor, Jason Stark; Councilor, Kenneth Nesbitt; Vice-Councilor, Thomas Nesbitt; Secretary, George Richards; Treasurer, Omer Fowler; Conductor, Irving Monroe; Inside Sentinel, Henry Gardner; Outside Sentinel, Edmund Lahr; and Trustees: Alfred Nieman, William Ridgley, Burton Schooley, and John Fenner, Sr.

Born the same year as the borough, the Jr. O.U.A.M. also celebrates its Diamond Jubilee this year.

### THE SWETLAND HOMESTEAD

\* \* \* \*

The Swetland Homestead was built as two houses which were then joined together. The rear section was completed in 1797 by Luke Swetland and is a simple rectangular "settler's cottage."

They planned a second and larger house in front of their first dwelling. One large room with a large fireplace, a second floor and an open, narrow staircase was built first. By 1809, a large hall with a formal staircase, a front parlor, and a back room had been added.

The assessment records reveal that the Swetland Homestead was "one house with improvements" by 1813. In order to keep in style, the front and the roof of the Homestead were "modernized" about 1850.

There have been no significant changes made in the house since then. Mrs. Franck G. Darte, great-great-great-granddaughter of Luke Swetland, renovated the interior when she presented the homestead to the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. The furniture and appointments, with few exceptions, have all come from her family and ancestors.

#### WYOMING ATHLETIC BOOSTER ASSOCIATION

The Wyoming Athletic Booster Association was organized on March 21, 1957 for the purpose of promoting sports throughout the borough and especially to encourage sports in the High School.

The original officers of the Association were as follows: President, Edmund Zekoski; Vice-President, Raymond Murdock; Secretary, Thomas Doty; Assistant Secretary, Richard Salus; Treasurer, John Shulde; Sergeant-at-Arms, Andrew Mazzarella; Board of Directors: Peter Podwika, Pat Girard, Peter Delano, John Mills and George Metcalfe.

In the year 1958 John Taddei assumed the presidency of the Association followed by Phil Pizano, Jr. in the year of 1959. The present officers of the Association for the year 1960 are as follows: President, Andrew Mazzarella; Vice-President, Don Foltz; Secretary, Joseph Yozwiak; Assistant Secretary, Thomas Tissue; Treasurer, Gus Turonis; Sergeant-at-Arms, Thomas Turonis; Board of Directors: Phil Pizano, Jr., Charles Van Camp, Charles Mazzarella, Henry Zelenski and Ronald Goryl.



WYOMING ATHLETIC BOOSTER ASSOCIATION — Seated: Gus Turonis, Treasurer; Don Foltz, Vice-President; Andrew Mazzarella, President; Joseph Yozwiak, Secretary; Thomas Tissue, Assistant Secretary. Standing: Henry Zelenski, Charles Van Camp, Phil Pizano, Jr., Ronald Goryl, and Charles Mazzarella, Board of Directors.

Since it was organized three years ago, the Association has donated a whirlpool bath and a cyclone therapy machine to Wyoming Memorial High School. They have sponsored a sports banquet each year and have taken motion pictures of home football games.

Besides giving cash prizes and awarding trophies to the outstanding senior in football, basketball and track, the Boosters were instrumental in reviving the Alma Mater at the High School.

### WYOMING BUSINESSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The Wyoming Businessmen's Association is one of the more recent groups organized in this community. The first meeting was held August 12th, 1959 at the Wyoming Memorial High School.

Present officers include: President, Carl Belcastro; Vice-President, Robert Carey; Secretary-Treasurer, John N. Shoemaker. Board of Directors are: Ernest Townend, William Cutten, Patrick Girard, Willard Carey and Milton Jacoby.



WYOMING BUSINESSMEN'S ASSOCIATION — Ernest Townend, Executive Board; Atty. Robert Carey, Executive Board; Willard Carey, Vice-President; Carl Belcastro, President; Milton Jacoby, Executive Board; Jack Dempsey. Second row: Joseph Shaver, Thomas Stapleton, A. H. Hughes, John Basta, George Wiertel, David Carpenter, John Rygiel. Third row: John Bowen, James Wodjick, Nelson Kile, James Hearn, George Metcalfe, Gilbert Perry, Leonard Walutes, Nicholas Prokopchak. Absent when picture was taken: Faye Lehrman, John Shoemaker, Secretary-Treasurer; Patrick Girard, Executive Board; William Cutten, Executive Board; Joseph Zarzecki, Robert Brunner, Louis Kluger, Peter Marinos, Peter Cordaro, Edmund Stanczak, Louis Marinos, Albert Brocca, Lloyd Lewis, Arthur Mazzitelli, Dr. Charles Montante, Robert Dougherty, Jr., S. A. Kluger, Philip Kluger, Maurice Kluger.

### ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Harmony Chapter, No. 58, Order of the Eastern Star, was constituted May 24, 1908, the first meeting place was located in the building now occupied by the Wyoming Paper Company. The first officers were: Mrs. Winifred Hutchins, Worthy Matron; J. I. Shoemaker, Worthy Patron; Mrs. Jennie Moore, Associate Matron; Robert Shulde, Secretary; Mrs. Sarah Wilson, Treasurer; Mrs. Ella Newton, Conductress; Miss Frances Alling, Associate Conductress; Nice Minegar, Chaplain; Mrs. Maude Smith, Marshall; Mrs. Hannah Jones, Organist; Mrs. Charles Herman, Adah; Mrs. Edith Peifer, Ruth; Mrs. Agnes Pyne, Esther; Mrs. Lillian Lindsay,

Martha; Mrs. Fannie Shulde, Electa; Mrs. Elizabeth Minegar, Warder; and John Sutter, Sentinel.

Harmony Chapter meets in the Scureman Building. The present officers are: Mrs. Margaret Coutts, Worthy Matron; Miss Eleanor Puterbaugh, Associate Matron; Mrs. Madge Kile, Conductress; Mrs. Melba Shaver, Associate Conductress; Mrs. Ethel Jones, Treasurer; Miss Grace Newton, Secretary; Mrs. Eleanor Witheridge, Chaplain; Mrs. Gertrude Stull, Marshall; Mrs. Barbara Newhart, Organist; Mrs. Lydie Kramer, Adah; Mrs. Marion Patner, Ruth; Mrs. Marion Saunders, Esther; Mrs. Jean Mitchell, Martha; Mrs. Ruth Metcalfe, Electa; Mrs. Alma Smiles, Warder; Mrs. Bartha Miller, Sentinel; and Mrs. Isabelle James, Mrs. Mabel Everett, Mrs. Martha Matthews, Color Bearers.

### WYOMING MONUMENT POST 396 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

This Post was chartered April 20, 1920 with Isaac Hess as its first Commander, and Edgar Saunders as Adjutant.

The present officers are: Commander, Albert Carpinet; Junior Vice-Commander, Thomas Kosisky; Senior Vice-Commander, Gene Lukesh; Quartermaster, John Basta; Adjutant, Gene Allegrucci; Judge Advocate,



WYOMING MONUMENT POST 396, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS — Seated: Ivo V. Giannini, Judge Advocate; Albert Carpinet, Commander; Vaughn S. Shupp, Past Commander; John Basta, Quartermaster. Standing: Thomas Kasisky, Senior Vice-Commander; John Adamo, Chaplain.

Ivo Giannini; Chaplain, John Adamo; Surgeon, Dr. Robert H. Stroh; Officer of the Day, Albert Zucca; Historian, Albert Brocca; and Service Officer, Gene Allegrucci.

A board of trustees is made up of Vaughn Shupp, Albert Zucca, and Joseph Castellani. The newly elected officers of the Home Association are: John Basta, Chairman; John Adamo, Joseph Castellani, Albert Carpinet, Wendell Chambers, Albert Zucca, and Gene Allegrucci.

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Secretary	Lisewski
Financial Secretary	Gertrude Dymond
Treasurer	Hortense Pollock
Chaplain	Mildred Regula

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Josephine Fetch Helen Fetch George Fetch III David R. Fetch Jr. Eileen Fetch

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Vice-President Bart Filipowski
Treasurer Joseph Oleski
Secretary Joseph Kolesar

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LADIES AUXILIARY

## Fraternal Order of Eagles

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On Its 75th Anniversary
from

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Wyoming, Pa.

Congratulations
On Your

75th Anniversary

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Best Wishes from

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Wyoming, Pa.

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Council 194

Daughters of America

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#### WYOMING

### PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION

A group of interested civic minded people, spirited by Edwin Eagen's donation of \$2,500, met at the Wyo-Inn on November 16, 1953 to formulate plans for a wading pool. At this meeting the following organizations were represented: Eagles Auxiliary, Hose Company No. 1, Hose Company No. 2, Hose Company No. 2 Auxiliary, Woman's Club, Rotary, Parent-Teachers Association, Wyoming-West Wyoming Little League, American Legion (Queen Esther Post), Wyoming-West Wyoming Lions Club, and Business Club.



WYOMING PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION — Members of Wyoming Playground and Recreational Association stand at the gates of Eagen Park, named in honor of Mr. Edwin Eagen, whose initial contribution started the Playground project. Mr. Eagen gives generously each year toward the upkeep of the Playground. Pictured left to right are: Wesley McKaig, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Andrew Mazzarella, Sr., Director; Bernard Gavlick, First Vice-President; Charles Golden, Director; Mrs. Pacific Turchetti, Treasurer; George Metcalfe, Director; Jack Dempsey, President; Mrs. John Elko, Director; Peter Podwika, Secretary; Joseph Michaels, Director; Theodore Eddy, Director.

"Wyoming Playground and Recreation Association" was adopted as the official name and the following officers were elected: President, Jack Dempsey; Vice-President, Fred Balester; Secretary, Joseph Zarzecki; and Treasurer, Mrs. Pacific Turchetti.

By December 7, 1953, the Wyoming Board of Education had granted the Association the use of the land located on Butler Street, next to the Grade School. The contract was let for the wading pool and playground on April 14, 1954 and soon work was underway. The playground and pool was officially dedicated on July 3, 1954.

Much progress has been made since that opening day. A new bath house and showers have been installed. Much needed playground equipment has been purchased. Charles Weissman donated a Merry-go-Round in July, 1959. This continued growth in the youth and recreation field is the result of the efforts of civic minded people and the fraternal and social organizations of Wyoming plus faithful leadership. The children of Wyoming have been given a supervised play area and the attendance runs into thousands each summer.

The present officers of the Wyoming Playground and Recreation Association are: Honorary President, Edwin Eagen; President, Jack Dempsey; 1st Vice-President, Bernard Gavlick; 2nd Vice-President, Wesley McKaig; Secretary, Peter G. Podwika; and Treasurer, Mrs. Pacific Turchetti.

# LADIES AUXILIARY VOLUNTEER HOSE COMPANY NO. 2

The Ladies Auxiliary to Wyoming Hose Company No. 2 was organized February 26, 1950. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Loren Strait; Vice-President, Mrs. Joseph Zanta; Secretary, Mrs. Bernard Gavlick; Treasurer, Mrs. John Endrusick; Board of Directors, Mrs. Al Griglock and Mrs. Roman Truskowski; and Foreman, Mrs. John Shedlock. Also present at this meeting were: Mrs. Henry Kudasick, Mrs. Joseph Regula and Mrs. Anthony Regula.



LADIES AUXILIARY HOSE COMPANY NO. 2 — Seated: Mesdames Irene Pasco, Gertrude Dymond, Mildred Regula, Helen Lisewski, Stella Elko, Nance Ludwig, Helen Klimasiewfski, Hortense Pollock, Josephine Kutzkowski, Louise Strait. Standing, second row: Theodora Sowa, Gladys Wilson, Agnes Podwika, Margaret Walutes, Katherine Gilligan, Mary Maruca, Frances Marfisi, Lillian Botyrius, Norma Klimasiewfski, Mary Bednar. Third row: Helen Chronowski, Eleanor Filipkowski, Mildred Bozek, Rosemary Zincavage, Ann M. Olesky, Della Savitsky, Anna Reese, Anna Derzak, Martha Gavlick.

The meeting date was set for the second Tuesday of each month at 8 o'clock. The auxiliary banner was donated by our good friend, Peter Bednarski. Within a short time, a flag with a pole and holder were pur-

chased and was first used at the Memorial Day Parade with all members parading in uniform.

The present officers are: President, Mrs. John Elko; Vice-President, Mrs. Walter Klimasiewfski; Secretary, Mrs. Edward Lisewski; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Harold Dymond; Treasurer, Mrs. David Pollock; Chaplain, Mrs. Anthony Regula; and Sergeant-at-Arms, Mrs. John Kutzkowski.

The auxiliary celebrated its 10th anniversary this year. Membership has climbed to fifty members with memberships being open to any women who have either a father, husband, son or brother who are regular, life or charter members of Hose Company No. 2.

The object of this organization is to assist the fire company in all activities and projects such as, civic and community drives, solicitations, donations or any worthwhile undertaking for the benefit of our town.

#### WYOMING REGULAR REPUBLICAN ORGANIZATION

This organization was first formed during the primary election of 1938 when Judge Arthur H. James was running for Governor of the Commonwealth. The club was in wholehearted support of the candidacy of Judge James and sent six streetcar-loads of Wyoming people to a rally at the Kingston Armory in October of that year.

The first officers were: Thomas R. Lewis, President; John W. Hartman, Secretary; Thomas H. Doty, Treasurer; and Atty. Max Rosenn, Counselor. They were aided by the executive committee, which included: in the 1st Ward, John Dooley, John Frankosky, William T. Scureman, and Joseph Walsh; in the 2nd Ward, Thomas R. Lewis, Dr. Robert H. Stroh, Frank Aita, and Frank Belcastro; and in the 3rd Ward, William R. Ridgley, Fred Williams, Thomas Beaney, and W. Howell Evans.

The first meetings were held in the office of Atty. Max Rosenn, Post Office Rooms located in the Schooley Building and then in the William Chapin Home, where Irv's Barber Shop is now located. Regular meetings were held there until the building was sold and torn down. After that, meetings were held when an available place could be obtained anywhere in town.

Meetings were held every month with dues being 25 cents if employed. Refreshments were served every second and last Saturday nights of the month.

The present officers of the organization are: Anthony Santasania, President; Leo Chiavacci, Vice-President; John W. Hartman, Secretary and Past President (1942-1951); Peter Chronowski, Recording Secretary-Treasurer; and Atty. Albert Carozza, Treasurer-Counselor. Executive committee members now are: in the 1st Ward, Bart Filipkowski, Leonard Zavada, Steve Sova, and George Ondek; in the 2nd Ward, William Semmens and John Basta; and in the 3rd Ward, Atty. Thomas Mack and William Schlingman.

The organization's Motto is "Community Pride."

#### ROTARY CLUB

The Rotary Club of Wyoming was organized and chartered June 24, 1929, under the sponsorship of the Pittston Rotary Club.

Major William Clark was its first president and Robert P. Shulde, the first secretary.

Charter members were: John Bowen, William A. Clark, Frank D. Cooper, Dr. Floyd J. Cross, Denton D. Durland, Edwin J. Eagen, Dr. Almon C. Hazlett, Kenneth Hessler, Leroy Keefer, Dr. Freas B. Kleintob, Louis Kluger, Robert P. Shulde, Roy Stauffer, William T. Scureman, Rev. Lorenzo D. Thomas, and Harold N. Shoemaker.



ROTARY CLUB OF WYOMING — First row: R. Harold Saunders, Stephen Sleboda, Director; Gail B. Young, Governor of District 741; Joseph F. Gallagher, President; Kenneth C. Moore, First Vice-President; Coray H. Miller, Director; Melvin Barry, Director; Raymond J. Collins, Secretary. Second row: Philip Kluger, Samuel Silverman, Joseph M. Shaver, Alfred Glatz, William R. Ridgley, Dr. Robert H. Stroh, Thomas W. Melson, Anthony Anzalone, William A. Jenkins. Third row: Sesto Santarelli, Harold R. Hitt, Fred J. Balester, Jr., Frank Cooper, Gilbert V. Perry, Walter G. Arnold, Benjamin Simonson. Absent: Joseph P. Curley, William F. Cutten, Edwin Eagen, George E. Fetch, Ivo V. Giannini, Raymond Kresge, Rev. Guy A. Leinthall, Second Vice-President; Otto Mappes, Russell J. Pembridge, Treasurer; Frank D. Serino, Director; William Stombock, Ernest S. Townend, Jr., Robert J. Weidenman.

The present roster of the club is 36 members, and serving presently as its officers are: Joseph F. Gallagher, President; Kenneth Moore, First Vice-President; Rev. Guy A. Leinthall, Second Vice-President; Raymond J. Collins, Secretary; and Russell J. Pembridge, Treasurer.

Holding the highest office in the district, Rotary International, District 74, presently is a member of the Wyoming Rotary Club, Gail B. Young, District Governor.

# WYOMING VALLEY CHAPTER, DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Wyoming Valley Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, was the first Chapter to be organized in Pennsylvania, just six month after the National Society's formation. Mrs. William H. McCartney was the organizing Regent and charter members numbered thirty-five. The date of organization was April 29, 1891 and the Chapter is number thirteen in the National Society.

Regents of the Chapter since its organization are as follows: Mrs. William H. McCartney, Mrs. Frederick Cross, acting Regent; Miss Martha Maffet, Mrs. Raymond Wadhams, Mrs. William Stark Tompkins, Mrs. Harry C. Miller, Mrs. Bolton G. Coon, Mrs. William F. Luckenbach, Mrs. Maurice



WYOMING VALLEY CHAPTER, DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION Chapter officers and honored guests at the 69th Birthday Luncheon of Wyoming Valley Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. Seated: Mrs. Charles R. Sneidman, Regent of Fort McClue Chapter, Bloomsburg; Mrs. Harradon, H. Smith, First Vice-Regent of Wyoming Valley Chapter; Mrs. Stanley K. Walborn, Chapter member and State Press Chairman; Mrs. Joseph H. Pool, IV., Wyoming Valley Chapter C.A.R. Chairman; Mrs. Joseph Vallery Wright, State Regent; Mrs. Coray H. Miller, Wyoming Valley Chapter Regent; Mrs. William Stark Tompkins, Past Chapter Regent, Honorary State Regent, and Past Vice-President General; Mrs. Arthur G. Schartz, State D.A.R. Magazine Chairman; Mrs. Thomas Stets, Chapter Historian and Good Citizen Chairman; and Miss Janet Gibbon, Chapter's Good Citizen Winner in State Contest. Standing: Miss Mildred Ellsworth, Tunkhannock Chapter Regent; Mrs. Loren Keller, Chapter Chaplain; Mrs. Blaine Purnell, Chapter Flag Chairman; Mrs. John S. Helt, Regent of Moses Van Campen Chapter, Berwick; Mrs. Elizabeth Gibbon, Mrs. Etheal Vose, Dial Rock Chapter Regent; Mrs. John H. Llewellyn, Regent of Scranton City Chapter; Mrs. Milton A. Hogencamp, Regent of Wayne Chapter; Honesdale; Miss Carrie Meixell, Chapter Librarian; and Mrs. W. T. Jones Evans, Second Vice-Regent of Wyoming Valley Chapter.

Keefer, Mrs. J. Stanley Rinehimer, Mrs. Stanley K. Walborn, Mrs. Raymond B. Wall, Sr., Mrs. John Alden Gay and Mrs. Coray H. Miller, the present Regent.

Fifty year members of the Wyoming Valley Chapter are: Mrs. William F. Luckenbach, Mrs. Ernest Hogg and Miss Natalie Crary.

The Wyoming Valley Chapter is active in historical, educational and patriotic work. Memorial trees have been planted. Stone and Bronze Markers were erected on locations of Fort Durkee, Wilkes-Barre, Wyoming, Forty Fort and Sullivan Trail. Queen Esther's Rock was purchased and protected by a steel cage.

The Chapter has an active Junior Committee and the Children of the American Revolution, Frances Slocum Society, under the leadership of Mrs. Joseph H. Pool, IV, is an active progressive Society.

Good Citizenship Committee, under the direction of the National Society, gives \$100.00 bonds and other rewards for essays on American History, the Constitution, and other historic topics. Wyoming Valley Chapter has the honor of having had sixteen winners. Mrs. Thomas Stets is currently chairman of this committee.

The Chapter has taken an active part financially and otherwise in the American Indians Committee, Approved Schools, Conservation, National and Civil Defense and American Music. Bronze markers are placed on the graves of deceased members.

Officers currently serving are: Mrs. Coray H. Miller, Regent; Mrs. Harradon H. Smith, First Vice-Regent and Registrar; Mrs. W. T. Jones Evans, Second Vice-Regent; Mrs. Loren Keller, Chaplain; Mrs. Jens Tvede, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Stanley Y. Slocum, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Edward R. Janjigian, Treasurer; Mrs. Thomas Stets, Historian; Miss Carrie E. Meixell, Librarian; Mrs. William Stark Tompkins, Parliamentarian.

### WYOMING DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

Although the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women, Inc., was founded at Reading in 1927, it was not until February 3, 1960 that a local branch was founded. On the latter date the Wyoming Democratic Women's Auxiliary was organized.

The first elected officers are: President, Gertrude Shady; Vice-President, Margaret Campbell; Treasurer, Alice Gustituts; Secretary, Dolores Sandroski; and Publicity, Margaret Kamor. To date there are 63 members who meet the first Wednesday of each month. The Auxiliary's motto is "Watch Us Grow."

#### WYOMING WOMAN'S CLUB

Wyoming Woman's Club was organized in 1915 and federated in 1923 with Mrs. Harry C. Miller as the first president. At its inception, and until 1929, it was known as The Civic League. The club theme is "Learning, Living and Working Together." Through the years, its members have supported cultural activities.

In 1927, The Woman's Club established the Wyoming Library and worked diligently for its support at rummage sales, card parties and teas. The club contributes to community drives and civic enterprises — but the Library remains the outstanding project. A combination card party, fashion show and bake sale proved so successful that it is now included in the yearly program for the benefit of the Library.

Interest has been stimulated in the club by the addition of two de-



OFFICERS OF WYOMING WOMAN'S CLUB — First row: Mrs. Alfred Glatz, Vice-President and Co-Chairman of the choral group; Mrs. James B. Law, Jr., Recording Secretary; Mrs. Coray H. Miller, President; Mrs. Armand Casterline, Financial Secretary and Co-Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. Standing: Mrs. Michael Socash, Chairman of Drama Dept.; Mrs. Joseph N. Betz, Chairman of Art Dept.; Mrs. Frank Williams, Treasurer; Mrs. Wm. Jenkins, Jr., Chairman of the Choral Group; Mrs. Emil Glatz, Chairman of Press Relations; Mrs. Wm. A. Shafer, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Pacific Turchetti, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

partments: Art Department with Mrs. Joseph Betz as instructor and Choral Group with Mrs. William Jenkins and Mrs. Alfred Glatz as chairmen.

Presidents who have served the club are: Mrs. Harry C. Miller, Mrs. J. Frank Smith, Miss Mary Polen, Mrs. K. R. Jones, Mrs. W. C. Baldwin, Mrs. Henrietta Hay, Mrs. Allen B. Wallace, Mrs. Smith Phillips, Mrs. J. P. DeWitt, Mrs. Robert Stroh, Mrs. William Shafer, Mrs. Daniel Jenkins, Mrs. Theodore Kean, Mrs. Wayne Smith, Mrs. Otto Mappes, Miss Irene Glatz, Mrs. David Morgan, Mrs. William Semmens, Mrs. James A. Pyne,

Mrs. John Moss, Mrs. Carl Eckhart, Mrs. Walter Arnold, Mrs. Lester Davies, Mrs. Gail B. Young. Mrs. Coray H. Miller is currently serving her third term as president.

Other officers of the club are: 1st Vice-President, Mrs. Alfred Gltaz; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. William Shafer; Recording Secretary, Mrs. James Law, Jr.; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Armand Casterline; Treasurer, Mrs. Frank Williams.



WYOMING WOMAN'S CLUB, CHORAL GROUP —At the piano: Mrs. Alfred S. Glatz, accompanist. Front row: Mrs. James B. Law, Jr., Mrs. Theodore Eddy, Mrs. Theodore Keen, Mrs. Ben Walters, Mrs. David Morgan, Mrs. Robert Houck, Mrs. Dan Carroll. Second row: Mrs. John Shulde, Mrs. Charles Burns, Mrs. Frank Williams, Mrs. Thomas Mack, Mrs. John Moss, Mrs. Leon Galavitz, Mrs. William A. Jenkins, Jr., Director.

### WYOMING - WEST WYOMING LIONS CLUB

The Lions Club of Wyoming-West Wyoming was organized on January 9, 1952 at the Wyo-Inn Restaurant. Fifty-two men were initiated as Charter Members. This organization is chartered by and under the jurisdiction of: The International Association of Lions Clubs. The following were elected as the first officers of the club: Jack Dempsey, President; Charles Greco, First Vice-President; Louis Kluger, Second Vice-President; Joseph Michaels, Third Vice-President; William Herbert, Secretary; Wesley McKaig, Treasurer; Theodore Eddy, William Carey, Charles Kirchner and Clair Murdoch as Directors; Robert Haimes, Tail Twister; Albert Thomas, Lion Tamer.

The following served as Presidents to the present date: Louis Kluger, Joseph Michaels, Charles Adonizio, Lloyd Lewis, Alfred Delano, Irving Kern and Joseph Zarzecki.

The purpose of the organization is to encourage active participation in all things that have to do with civic and industrial betterment, with emphasis on eye conservation.

Some of the many contributions made to the community by the Lions Club are: Sponsors of a team in the Little League, Complete School Boy Patrol outfits, Kiddies Christmas Parties, Christmas Baskets of food to needy families, painting and lettering sign. "Welcome to Wyoming."

The Wyoming Ambulance has received: a Stretcher and Industrial First Aid Kit, Washington Wheel Stair Chair, Oxygen Tank, Cylinder and Oxygen when needed, and Nasal Meter Mask. Three Wheel Chairs were bought to be used without charge by needy individuals, and two school Vision Screening Test Machines for use in Wyoming and West Wyoming High Schools.

At the present time they are co-operating with the Northeast Pennsylvania Lions Eye Bank. The primary purpose of the Eye Bank is to furnish eyes to doctors so they can use the corneas for transplant purposes and thereby restore sight to blind persons.



WYOMING WOMAN'S CLUB, ART GROUP — Seated: Mrs. Melvin Barry, Mrs. Thomas Mack, Mrs. William Herbert, Mrs. Theodore Keen, Mrs. Leon Galavitz. Standing: Mrs. Donald Gross, Mrs. Frank Williams, Mrs. Patrick Girard, Mrs. Joseph N. Betz, Art Instructor.

### OTHER ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN WYOMING

Boy Scouts Explorer Post 321
Fraternal Order of Eagles
Wyoming Monument Post 396, V.F.W. Auxiliary
Wyoming Progressive Club

### FINALISTS FOR JUBILEE QUEEN



A jubilee queen will be selected from the girls pictured above. All five finalists are high school girls from Wyoming Memorial High School. They have been selected first by application, and then by personal interview on the basis of poise, personality, and personal appearance. From these five finalists, a queen will be selected at Homecoming on May 28. The four remaining finalists will be the queen's attendants. The Queen and her four Belles will be presented at a Jubilee Ball on Saturday evening, June 4; there, they will receive trophies. The five finalists pictured above are: Joan Koval, Mary Kaye Grabowski, Beverly McKaig, Sandra Dominick, and Maureen Selenski.

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McKeehan, Ellen Oates
McKeehan, Harry
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